

Docket No.: NHL-DOR-103
Serial No.: 10/051,620
Customer No.: 00432

Claim Amendments

1. (canceled)
2. (currently amended) A movable wall system for use in buildings, said movable wall system comprising:
 - a plurality of movable panels;
 - a runner rail structure;
 - each of said panels comprising at least one suspension device to suspend each of said panels from said runner rail structure;
 - said at least one suspension device comprising a runner roller;
 - said runner roller being configured and disposed to run on said runner rail structure to permit movement of each of said panels;
 - said runner rail structure further comprising:
 - a first track section;
 - a second track section;
 - a third track section;
 - said first track section being joined with said second track section at a junction area;
 - said first track section being separated from said third track section by a gap at said junction area;
 - a track-switching arrangement being configured and

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disposed to be actuated to bridge said gap to permit said at least one suspension device of ~~said panels~~ to travel between said first track section and said third track section; and said track-switching arrangement comprising:

a ~~non-rotating~~, movable track portion comprising one of: a pivotable track and a translatable track;

said ~~non-rotating~~, movable track portion being configured and disposed to be moved into said gap to connect said first track section and said third track section, and to bypass said second track section; and

a mechanical switch being configured and disposed to be actuated to move said ~~non-rotating~~, movable track portion into said gap; and

said at least one suspension device comprising a contact structure;

said contact structure of said at least one suspension device being one of:

disposed to contact and actuate said mechanical switch upon said at least one suspension device entering said junction area to permit said at least one suspension device to travel

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between said first track section and said third track section; and disposed not to contact said mechanical switch upon said at least one suspension device entering said junction area to permit said at least one suspension device to travel between said first track section and said second track section.

3. (original) The movable wall system according to Claim 2, wherein said mechanical switch comprises a rigid bent intermediate piece, attached to the ends of which are flexible switching points.

4. (original) The movable wall system according to Claim 3, wherein the flexibility of said switching points is achieved by spring steel sheets.

5. (original) The movable wall system according to Claim 2, wherein said intermediate piece is connected to a connecting piece, which is configured to execute a relative movement at right angles to said runner rail.

6. (original) The movable wall system according to Claim 3, wherein said intermediate piece is connected to a connecting piece, which is configured to execute a relative movement at right angles to said runner rail.

7. (currently amended) The movable wall system according to

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Claim 5, wherein ~~on the end of the~~:

said track switching arrangement comprises a first spacer and a second spacer;

~~in the manner of a parallelogram and which are simultaneously mounted rotationally on another~~ has a first end and a second end opposite said first end;

said mechanical switch is connected to said first end of said first connecting piece, which is fastened in a stationary fashion to the;

said first spacer and said second spacer each are rotationally connected to said second end of said first connecting piece and disposed transverse to said first connecting piece;

said first spacer and said second spacer are configured and disposed to be parallel with respect to one another;

said track switching arrangement comprises a second connecting piece disposed parallel to said first connecting piece;

said second connecting piece is connected to said first track section and said third track section;

said first spacer and said second spacer each are rotationally

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connected to said second connecting piece and disposed transverse to
said second connecting piece; and

 said first connecting piece, said second connecting piece, said
 first spacer, and said second spacer are configured and disposed to
 together define a parallelogram.

8. (currently amended) The movable wall system according to
Claim 6, wherein ~~on the end of the~~:

 said track switching arrangement comprises a first spacer and a
 second spacer;

 said first connecting piece there has a ~~are~~ first end and a
 second spacers that can be rotated in the manner of a parallelogram
 and which are simultaneously mounted rotationally on another end
 opposite said first end;

 said mechanical switch is connected to said first end of said
 first connecting piece, which is fastened in a stationary fashion to
 the;

 said first spacer and said second spacer each are rotationally
 connected to said second end of said first connecting piece and
 disposed transverse to said first connecting piece;

 said first spacer and said second spacer are configured and

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disposed to be parallel with respect to one another;

said track switching arrangement comprises a second connecting piece disposed parallel to said first connecting piece;

said second connecting piece is connected to said first track section and said third track section;

said first spacer and said second spacer each are rotationally connected to said second connecting piece and disposed transverse to said second connecting piece; and

said first connecting piece, said second connecting piece, said first spacer, and said second spacer are configured and disposed together define a parallelogram.

9. (original) The movable wall system according to Claim 7, wherein the first spacer is longer than the second spacer and on its free end holds the movable track portion.

10. (original) The movable wall system according to Claim 8, wherein the first spacer is longer than the second spacer and on its free end holds the movable track portion.

11-20. (canceled)

21. (new) A movable wall system for use in buildings, said movable wall system comprising:

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a plurality of movable panels;

a runner rail structure;

each of said panels comprising at least one suspension device

to suspend each of said panels from said runner rail structure;

said at least one suspension device comprising a single runner roller and also a single contact structure separate from said runner roller;

said runner roller being configured and disposed to run on said runner rail structure to permit movement of each of said panels;

said runner rail structure further comprising:

a first track section;

a second track section;

a third track section;

a track-switching arrangement being configured and disposed to be actuated to permit said at least one suspension device to travel between said first track section and said third track section; and

said track-switching arrangement comprising:

a movable track portion comprising one of: a pivotable track portion and a translatable track portion;

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said movable track portion being configured and disposed to be moved into a position to permit said at least one suspension device to travel between said first track section and said third track section; and

a mechanical switch being configured and disposed to be actuated to move said movable track portion into said position to permit said at least one suspension device to travel between said first track section and said third track section; and

said contact structure is configured to be disposed in either:

a first position in said at least one suspension device to permit said contact structure to contact and actuate said mechanical switch to permit said at least one suspension device to travel between said first track section and said third track section; or

a second position in said at least one suspension device to permit said contact structure to not contact said mechanical switch to permit said at least one suspension device to travel between said first track section and said second track section.

22. (new) The movable wall system according to Claim 21,

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wherein:

 said mechanical switch comprises a rigid bent intermediate piece, attached to the ends of which are flexible switching points;

 said flexible switching points comprise flexible spring steel sheets;

 said mechanical switch is connected to a first connecting piece, which is configured to execute a relative movement at right angles to said runner rail;

 said track switching arrangement comprises a first spacer and a second spacer;

 said first connecting piece has a first end and a second end opposite said first end;

 said mechanical switch is connected to said first end of said first connecting piece;

 said first spacer and said second spacer each are rotationally connected to said second end of said first connecting piece and disposed transverse to said first connecting piece;

 said first spacer and said second spacer are configured and disposed to be parallel with respect to one another;

 said track switching arrangement comprises a second connecting

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piece disposed parallel to said first connecting piece;
said second connecting piece is connected to said first track section and said third track section;
said first spacer and said second spacer each are rotationally connected to said second connecting piece and disposed transverse to said second connecting piece;
said first connecting piece, said second connecting piece, said first spacer, and said second spacer are configured and disposed together to form a parallelogram;
said first spacer is longer than said second spacer;
said first spacer has a first end and a second end opposite said first end of said first spacer;
said first spacer is connected to said first and second connecting pieces at said first end of said first spacer; and
said movable track portion is connected to said second end of said first spacer.

23. (new) A movable wall system for use in buildings, said movable wall system comprising:

a plurality of movable panels;
a runner rail structure;

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each of said panels comprising at least one suspension device to suspend each of said panels from said runner rail structure; said at least one suspension device comprising:

a single runner roller being configured and disposed to run on said runner rail structure to permit movement of each of said panels; and

a single guide roller separate from said runner roller and being configured and disposed to guide said at least one suspension device in said runner rail structure;

said runner rail structure further comprising:

a first track section;

a second track section;

a third track section;

a track-switching arrangement being configured and disposed to be actuated by said guide roller to permit said at least one suspension device to travel between said first track section and said third track section; and

said track-switching arrangement comprising a movable track portion comprising one of: a pivotable track portion and a translatable track portion;

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said movable track portion being configured and disposed to be moved into a position to permit said at least one suspension device to travel between said first track section and said third track section.

24. (new) The movable wall system according to Claim 23, wherein said track switching arrangement comprises a mechanical switch being configured and disposed to be contacted by said guide roller to actuate said track switching arrangement to move said movable track portion into said position to permit said at least one suspension device to travel between said first track section and said third track section.

25. (new) The movable wall system according to Claim 24, wherein said guide roller is configured to be disposed in either:
a first position in said at least one suspension device to permit said guide roller to contact and actuate said mechanical switch to permit said at least one suspension device to travel between said first track section and said third track section; or
a second position in said at least one suspension device to permit said guide roller to not contact said mechanical switch to permit said at least one suspension device to travel between said first

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track section and said second track section.

26. (new) The movable wall system according to Claim 25, wherein said mechanical switch comprises a rigid bent intermediate piece, attached to the ends of which are flexible switching points.

27. (new) The movable wall system according to Claim 26, wherein said flexible switching points comprise flexible spring steel sheets.

28. (new) The movable wall system according to Claim 25, wherein said mechanical switch is connected to a first connecting piece, which is configured to execute a relative movement at right angles to said runner rail.

29. (new) The movable wall system according to Claim 26, wherein said mechanical switch is connected to a first connecting piece, which is configured to execute a relative movement at right angles to said runner rail.

30. (new) The movable wall system according to Claim 29, wherein:

 said track switching arrangement comprises a first spacer and a second spacer;

 said first connecting piece has a first end and a second end

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opposite said first end;

 said mechanical switch is connected to said first end of said first connecting piece;

 said first spacer and said second spacer each are rotationally connected to said second end of said first connecting piece and disposed transverse to said first connecting piece;

 said first spacer and said second spacer are configured and disposed to be parallel with respect to one another;

 said track switching arrangement comprises a second connecting piece disposed parallel to said first connecting piece;

 said second connecting piece is connected to said first track section and said third track section;

 said first spacer and said second spacer each are rotationally connected to said second connecting piece and disposed transverse to said second connecting piece; and

 said first connecting piece, said second connecting piece, said first spacer, and said second spacer are configured and disposed together to form a parallelogram.

31. (new) The movable wall system according to Claim 30,
wherein:

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said first spacer is longer than said second spacer;

said first spacer has a first end and a second end opposite said first end of said first spacer;

said first spacer is connected to said first and second connecting pieces at said first end of said first spacer; and

said movable track portion is connected to said second end of said first spacer.